

# **MEDIA STATEMENT**

## **BATU FERRINGHI, WANGSA MAJU AND GOMBAK CONSTRUCTION SITE INCIDENTS INVESTIGATED UNDER CIDB ACT**

### ***CIDB calls upon all industry players to step up construction safety***

**KUALA LUMPUR, 28 June, 2019** - In light of recent construction site accidents, including the fatal landslide in Batu Ferringhi that buried four Myanmar workers; the collapse of a building platform in Wangsa Maju that caused the injury of four workers; and a building collapse in Gombak that caused the death of two workers; the **Construction Industry Development Board Malaysia (CIDB)** today called upon all industry players to step up safety measures in construction.

Currently, CIDB is investigating the Batu Ferringhi and Gombak incidents under **Section 34D(1)** of the **CIDB Act (Act 520)**, which states that any contractor who breaches his/her duty under paragraph 34B(1)(c), and which breach results in death, shall be guilty of an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM500,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both. Whereas, the Wangsa Maju incident is investigated under **Section 34C** for the breach of duty by contractor.

If found guilty, CIDB will also revoke the company's contractor registration rendering it unable to participate in any construction project in the future.

"We are alarmed and concerned by the worrying number of construction accidents recently. In the past few weeks, there have been three major construction site accidents. In most cases, worksite incidents could have been avoided if the proper guidelines, procedures and safety systems are implemented. These incidents are a serious reminder why it is absolutely crucial for industry players to commit to ensuring safety measures across the construction value chain in Malaysia," said **Dato' Ir. Ahmad 'Asri Abdul Hamid, Chief Executive of CIDB Malaysia.**

"CIDB has been calling for improved safety in the industry since our inception in 1994. In fact, a key focus of the **Construction Industry Transformation Plan 2016-**

**2020 (CITP)** is to reduce the number of fatalities in construction, and all industry players need to be serious about achieving this. This is especially in light of the mandating of the **Occupational Safety and Health in Construction Industry Management (OSHCIM)** in 2020 under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) 1994,” he added.

With OSHCIM, all stakeholders in a project – from conception to completion – will share the responsibility for ensuring the health and safety of the entire project life cycle. In fact, the client or project owner, as the project originators will be held ultimately responsible.

Furthermore, CIDB has been conducting routine **Act 520 enforcement** inspections across the nation as part of its efforts to ensure contractors and site managers fulfill their responsibility to have sufficient safety measures for construction work.

Just this week, CIDB cracked down on a construction site for a housing development project near Precinct 12 in Putrajaya, which found that:

- 58 of 92 construction personnel investigated were not registered with CIDB;
- 75 of 92 construction workers were not accredited in their skill trades; and,
- 4 of 13 sub-contractors were not registered with CIDB.

“Construction workers must be certified and accredited in their skills trades to ensure that they know the requirements for work safety, quality and productivity. Furthermore, it is important for construction personnel to be registered with CIDB in order to keep track of the industry’s manpower needs and issues, and to develop relevant skills training programmes suited to the nation’s needs,” said Dato’ Ir. Ahmad 'Asri Abdul Hamid.

He said CIDB will not hesitate to take stern action against contractors who employ workers who are not registered or accredited by CIDB. Under Act 520, workers and their employer can be fined up to RM5,000 for each worker.

“Enforcement of Act 520 is one of the ways to improve safety in the construction industry and there are many more areas for industry players to look into in ensuring safety during and after construction works. CIDB is committed to working together with industry players and all relevant stakeholders to continue its efforts in uplifting the standards of the construction industry in Malaysia,” he concluded.

As of May 2019, CIDB has carried out 1,347 site inspections, 15 Integrated Enforcement Operations - *Operasi Penguatkuasaan Bersepadu* (OPB) and eight Special Operations - *Operasi Khas*. Out of these enforcement efforts, a total of 2,611 notices have been issued and 629 investigation papers have been opened.

In 2018, a total of 3,401 site inspections has been carried out, including 30 OPB, six Special Operations. Out of these operations, 4,676 notices have been issued, 1,068 investigation papers opened, 16 disciplinary proceedings carried out, and 135 disciplinary actions taken. Throughout 2018, a total of RM3,006,603.70 compound and RM1,050,750 penalties have been issued by CIDB.

For more information, please visit: [www.cidb.gov.my](http://www.cidb.gov.my)

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### ***About CIDB Malaysia***

*The Construction Industry Development Board was established under the Construction Industry Development Act (Act 520) to develop the Capacity and Capability of the Construction Industry through Enhancement of Quality and Productivity by Placing Great Emphasis on Professionalism, Innovation and Knowledge in the Endeavour to Improve the Quality of Life.*

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*Issued on behalf of CIDB by NagaDDB Tribal*

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